

The Rush County Council met in regular session on Wednesday, April 20, 2011 at 8:00 a.m. with Norman Winkler, Chairman, Warren Norris, Gerald Mohr, Janet Kile, Bruce Levi, Kevin Spilman, Jerry Kent, Leigh Morning, Attorney, and Deborah Adams, Auditor in attendance.

Chairman, Norman Winkler called the meeting to order. Minutes of the March 9, 2011 meeting were approved on a motion by Gerald Mohr, seconded by Bruce Levi. Motion carried.

HEALTH

Terri Nigh, Health Department Secretary, appeared before the Council seeking a \$25,000.00 additional appropriation from the Tobacco Settlement Master Account. Nigh shared that \$5,000.00 has been allotted for Partners for a Healthy Rush County and \$20,000.00 has been allotted for the Family Health Services Clinic.

Bruce Levi made the motion for the Auditor to move forward with the advertising of the additional appropriation for the council to review and consider for final approval during their May Council meeting. Janet Kile seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Nigh shared with the council the 2010 Annual Report for their review.

SURVEYOR

Marvin Rees, Surveyor, reported to the council on the William Williams Drain. Rees reported that the pay up front policy worked really well for this drain.

Rees did inform the council that the Drainage Board had approved Resolution 2011-2 for the reconstruction of the John Lawless drain.

Rees asked the councils approval to proceed with the loan process. Rees will be sending a letter to the land owners inviting them to pay up front. The loan will be for the difference. Gerald Mohr made the motion for Rees to proceed with the loan process. Kevin Spilman seconded the motion. Motion carried.

COMMISSIONERS

Tom Barnes informed the council of a new federal program that will provide part-time workers. Barnes indicated that the surveyor is currently utilizing a person. Barnes also stressed that these part-time workers are not paid by county funds.

- **BUILDING REPAIRS** – Tom Barnes informed the council of necessary courthouse building repairs. The Southwest handicap curb approach has crumbled and needs replaced as a letter has been received from the Sickbert family. Handrails need installed on the handicap ramp. The North side courthouse steps have collapsed in one area and need replaced. Duplicate bids have been asked but only one has been received.

Barnes reported that the courthouse drains were not attached properly to the storm sewer. Barnes explained that this has caused problems throughout the past years. Barnes explained that this can and needs to be tied in properly with the City sewer project. Barnes updated the council that the pigeon problem still existed on the third floor. Barnes mentioned that a grape mist is used by the military and airport.

- **COMMISSONERS ROOM** – Barnes informed the council that the county will be spending money modifying the commissioner’s room. The commissioners will try to use the room for four (4) months or may move the commissioner meetings to the assembly room.
- **CERTIFICATE SALE** – Barnes reported that the Commissioners Certificate Sale was a huge success.
- **SMITH COUNTRY ADDITION** – Barnes updated the council that a document was signed in 1995 by the commissioners taking the roads.
- **OCRA** – Barnes reported that Glenwood Vol. Fire Dept. appeared before the commissioners and received approval of \$1,200.00 of the excess OCRA money for installation of alarms in their town. Raleigh Fire Dept. questioned the balance of the contribution.

After further discussion Jerry Kent made the motion to advertise for an additional appropriation of the OCRA fund balance. Kent also continued to request that the commissioners come up with a fair and equitable way to distribute the money. Gerald Mohr seconded the motion. Motion carried.

- **DUKE ENERGY** – Barnes informed the council that Duke Energy gave a \$1,000.00 contribution to the E.M.A. following the Ice Storm. Barnes explained that Mike Ooley has plans for this money but it has been placed in the General Fund.

Deborah Adams reported that the money must be placed in the General Fund; only insurance reimbursements are allowed to be quietused into the budgeted appropriation. Adams explained that she had made note to inform the council during this meeting and had also informed Ooley and the Commissioners that the council would take under consideration during budget hearings or when discussed.

Discussion was held, Gerald Mohr made the motion that when the Commissioners accepted department donations, the auditor will make note to the council, advertise the donation as an additional appropriation for their consideration of approval. Jerry Kent seconded the motion. Motion carried.

- **MAIN STREET PROJECT** – Barnes informed the Council that Sunesus Engineering has breached our levy. This has been brought to the attention of the Drainage Board and should be resolved by the end of the week.

AREA PLAN

Bill Todd asked the council to approve and sign the “*Inter-Local Agreement for a Flood Plain Study*”. Todd explained what the study should accomplish. Jerry Kent made the motion to approve and sign the “*Inter-Local Agreement for the Flood Plain Study*” Gerald Mohr seconded the motion. Motion carried.

COMMON CONSTRUCTION WAGE BOARD

Leigh Morning informed the Council that the school is doing a construction project that requires the creation of a common construction wage board. Kevin Spilman made the motion to appoint Denny Corn to the Common Construction Wage Board. Jerry Kent seconded the motion. Motion carried.

SHERIFF

Jeff Sherwood, Sheriff, reported thirty-six (36) inmates incarcerated in the Rush County jail. Sherwood reported that the inmates assisted the Rushville City Street Department with the filling of the sand bags.

Sherwood submitted the Annual Commissary Fund Report for the year 2010. Sherwood reported that the department has received one of the new trucks and it is being driven by Deputy Matt Hedrick.

Thursday, May 26, 2011 is scheduled for the yearly jail inspection. Commissioner Ken Masters has asked to sit in on the report. Sherwood invited any council members to also sit in on the report.

Sherwood discussed the McCready Keene Report with the council. McCready and Keene, Inc. recommended that the county contribution be \$130,835.00 which is 28.9% of the approved payroll, as compared to 30.8% in the 2010 valuation. Sherwood also explained that McCready Keene further recommended that another option would be that the county contributes \$180,000.00 which provides a contribution for the Benefit Plan (\$4,524.00) and a contribution for the Retirement Plan (\$175,476.00) in excess of the Recommended County Contribution for the 2011 plan year. Jerry Kent made the motion for Jeff Sherwood to sign the Service Agreement for the Retirement Plan and the Benefit Plan. Bruce Levi seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Kevin Spilman made the motion to approve the additional appropriation of \$7,500.00 for Firearms Training Supplies 24-1000-2-1 Warren Norris seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Sherwood finished by reporting roof leaks at the jail.

E-911

Jeff Sherwood, Sheriff, received approval on a transfer of \$1,108.00 from Wireless Misc. Services (200-1000-3-2) into Wireless Perf (200-1000-1-3) on a motion by Gerald Mohr, seconded by Warren Norris. Motion carried. Sherwood also received approval on another transfer of \$1,108.00 from Wireless Misc. Services (200-1000-3-2) into Wireless FICA (200-1000-1-2) by Warren Norris, seconded by Janet Kile. Motion carried.

AUDITOR

Deborah Adams, Auditor, received a \$500.00 transfer from Plat Book Fund Equip (110-1000-4-1) into Repairs and Maintenance (110-1000-3-1) on a motion by Gerald Mohr, seconded by Warren Norris.

Adams discussed the Congressional, Common School Township Fund. Adams reported that the interest money is reported and submitted to the state yearly. Adams explained that the state passed to allow these funds to be permanently turned back to the state and that many counties have already accomplished this. Janet Kile made the motion to allow Adams to proceed. Kevin Spilman seconded the motion. Voting Aye were Norman Winkler, Warren Norris, Gerald Mohr, Janet Kile and Kevin Spilman. Voting Nay was Jerry Kent and Bruce Levi.

BUDGET REDUCTIONS

Janet Kile explained how she and Kevin Spilman came up with the recommendations of 2011 budget reductions. Discussion was held regarding the reductions. Kile recommended that a letter be sent to the office holder/department head prior to the May council meeting explaining the proposed reduction. Kile explained this would allow the office holder/department head to defend the proposed reduction. Further discussion was held.

Jerry Kent made the motion for the auditor to send a letter to each office holder/department head explaining the state mandated cuts, present the proposed budget reduction(s), ask if the office holder/department head wanted to discuss further to be present at the Wednesday, May 11, 2011 council meeting. Gerald Mohr seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Brad Smith explained when questioned concerning the ambulance depreciation funds that RMH sets up a separate fund with a CD invested with the funding of the depreciation money that is set aside. Smith explained that the money is the counties money.

PUBLIC DEFENDER

Janet Kile questioned the Public Defender contract of Bryan Barrett. It was explained that he was a full-time employee. John Worth is in charge of the Public Defender Board and can be brought to a council meeting to answer further questions.

COUNTY WEBSITE

Carole Yeend asked that any council meeting date changes be forwarded to her to be posted on the county website.

SOLID WASTE

Janet Kile questioned a possible City-County trash. Carole Yeend briefly explained that she is currently working on a Pay-to-throw that will be an increased benefit and not a burden to the county.

Motion to adjourn was initiated by Bruce Levi. Kevin Spilman seconded the motion, motion carried.

/s/Norman Winkler
Norman Winkler, Chairman

/s/Warren Norris
Warren Norris

/s/Gerald Mohr
Gerald Mohr

/s/Janet Kile
Janet Kile

/s/Bruce Levi
Bruce Levi

/s/Kevin Spilman
Kevin Spilman

/s/Jerry Kent
Jerry Kent

ATTEST:

/s/Deborah C. Adams
Deborah C. Adams, Auditor